

General Information

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Contracting Office Address

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Purpose

This is a Request for Information (RFI) **only**. This RFI is being conducted pursuant to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 15.201(e). No contract will be awarded from this announcement and no reimbursement will be made for any costs associated with providing information or for the rapid proof of concept submitted in response to this RFI.

This RFI is issued solely for information and planning purposes – it does not constitute a Request For Proposal (RFP) or any obligation on the part of the Government. The Government will utilize the information provided only to develop the acquisition strategy for a possible future requirement. Failure to respond to this requirement does not preclude participation in the anticipated RFP (if issued).

Description

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / United States Secret Service (USSS) is seeking information on commercially available gunshot detection technologies for fixed site surveillance applications. Typical coverage areas are expected to be from 10s to 100s of acres per site, located within urban areas. Due to the secure nature of these sites, a high gunshot detection rate (>95%) is strongly desired while daily, operational monitoring of the system by external parties is undesirable.

RFI Criteria

The United States Secret Service is interested in learning product characteristics of currently available technologies and capabilities. Interested firms must submit a response addressing all of the following questions:

1. Briefly describe the technology/system.
2. Describe similar applications where this technology/system is currently deployed.
3. What types of weapons can this system detect (e.g., caliber, projectile velocity, etc.)?

4. What is the effective range and field of regard for a single sensor (from either the weapon-firing location and/or, as applicable, the round's closest point of approach to a sensor)?
5. Describe typical sensor placement for similar applications. Are sensors easily concealed or could they aesthetically match their surroundings?
6. Describe how a system localizes gunfire and its accuracy. If multiple sensors (or sensor sites) are used, explain how they are networked.
7. What are typical detection rates? Describe factors that influence detection rates and their impacts on performance. At a minimum, address the following:
 - a. Weather and environmental factors (e.g., temperature, precipitation, noise, time of day, glare, etc.)
 - b. Shooter location
 - i. Shot fired from within a vehicle
 - ii. Shot fired from within a building (behind a window or doorway)
 - c. Geography (e.g., urban canyons, clutter)
 - d. Direction of fire (towards/away from/tangential to sensor)
 - e. Other potential factors that would mask gunshot detection
8. How does the system handle multiple shots occurring in a short time interval (either from same or disparate locations)?
9. What is a typical false alarm rate for this type of system? Describe common false alarm triggers. How does an operator discriminate true positives from false alarms?
10. What type of information does the system provide in a shot report (e.g., azimuth, elevation, range, lat-long, caliber, # shots, etc.)?
11. Describe how sensor performance is verified on a deployed system. Can this technology be tested/validated without use of live fire or blanks?
12. Can this technology determine the trajectory of a shot? If so, how?
13. Describe how a user would monitor the system. How much time/manpower is required?
14. Describe how sensor and system health is monitored. Can this be done solely by the government user/operator?
15. Describe typical repair processes and downtime scenarios.
16. What training is required to operate the system? Are specialized skills required?

17. Describe computer and network and communication requirements and capabilities. Include a system connectivity diagram.
18. Describe typical system costs and cost drivers. How do costs scale with coverage area size and additional coverage areas? At a minimum, address the following:
 - a. Equipment, Software, and Installation
 - b. Operational
 - c. Maintenance (preventative and emergency repair)
 - d. Replacement parts (including additional sensors)
19. Please describe typical warranties and expected equipment lifetime.
20. What tasks and intervals does preventive maintenance entail?
21. Is the system portable (i.e., can it be quickly relocated to another site)? If so, describe what is involved.
22. Can the system be integrated to communicate with other detection systems?
23. Please include any additional information you feel may be relevant.
24. If an Indefinite Delivery / Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) were established, how would you propose to price a site survey and system design, the actual system, maintenance and other cost factors?

Responses

Responses to this RFI must be received no later than February 18, 2013 at 5:00 PM ET and shall be emailed to N. Clark Lanzendorf at Neil.Lanzendorf@ussd.dhs.gov. Late responses or those sent by any other mechanism will not be considered.

Responses to this RFI shall include the business' DUNS number, CAGE code, Business size/socio-economic status and include a statement of self-certification under the NAICS code **334511**- Search, Detection, Navigation, Guidance, Aeronautical, and Nautical System and Instrument Manufacturing.

Proprietary information and trade secrets, if any, must be clearly marked on all materials. All information received that is marked Proprietary will be handled accordingly. Prospective respondents are advised that all submissions become Government property and will not be returned.

Please contact N. Clark Lanzendorf for instructions for submitting classified responses.

Point of Contact

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